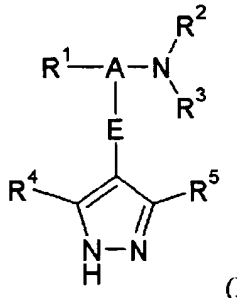
ABSTRACT

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOUNDS

The invention provides compounds of the formula (I) having protein kinase B inhibiting activity:



(I)

wherein A is a saturated hydrocarbon linker group containing from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, the linker group having a maximum chain length of 5 atoms extending between R^1 and NR^2R^3 and a maximum chain length of 4 atoms extending between E and NR^2R^3, wherein one of the carbon atoms in the linker group may optionally be replaced by an oxygen or nitrogen atom; and wherein the carbon atoms of the linker group A may optionally bear one or more substituents selected from oxo, fluorine and hydroxy, provided that the hydroxy group when present is not located at a carbon atom α with respect to the NR^2R^3 group and provided that the oxo group when present is located at a carbon atom α with respect to the NR^2R^3 group;

E is a monocyclic or bicyclic carbocyclic or heterocyclic group;

R^1 is an aryl or heteroaryl group; and

R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in the claims.

Also provided are pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds, methods for preparing the compounds and their use as anticancer agents.